

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The claims are 2-4, 6 and 10. Claim 10 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 5. Accordingly, claim 5 has been canceled and claim 6, which previously depended on claim 5, has been amended to depend on claim 10 as amended. In addition, claims 8 and 11, which were withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner as directed to a non-elected invention, have been canceled without prejudice to their presentation in a divisional application. Claim 12 has also been canceled. Reconsideration is expressly requested.

Claims 10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Stanchfield U.S. Patent No. 6,860,074*. Claims 2-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Stanchfield* in view of *Neuhofe U.S. Design Patent No. D542,941*. Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Stanchfield* in view of *Neuhofe* and in further view of *Kemper U.S. Patent No. 6,345,480*.

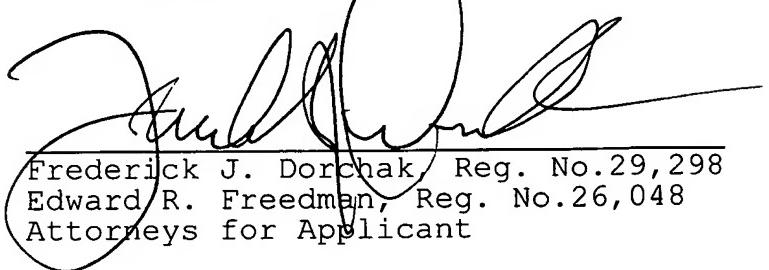
The Examiner has also indicated, however, that claims 5 and 6 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's rejection and in order to expedite prosecution of this case, Applicant has amended claim 10 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 5, has amended claim 6, which previously depended on claim 5, to depend on claim 10 as amended, and has canceled claims 5, 8, 11 and 12.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 10 as amended, together with claims 2-4 and 6 which depend directly or indirectly thereon, are now in condition for allowance.

In summary, claims 5, 8, 11 and 12 have been canceled and claims 6 and 10 have been amended. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the claims be allowed and that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,  
Franz NEUHOFER, JR.



Frederick J. Dorchak, Reg. No.29,298  
Edward R. Freedman, Reg. No.26,048  
Attorneys for Applicant

COLLARD & ROE, P.C.  
1077 Northern Boulevard  
Roslyn, New York 11576  
(516) 365-9802

FJD:cmp

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 23, 2011.



Kelly Espitia  
Kelly Espitia

R:\Patents\NEUHOFER, JR-16 PCTRCE-3\Amendment in Response to First OA in RCE - 11.22.11.wpd